

## Message Text

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47

ACTION CU-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1852

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USIA WASHDC

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STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C; USIA FOR IEU

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, UR, PINT

SUBJECT: 1976-77 LECTURER EXCHANGE

REF: (A) MOSCOW 17366 (B) STATE 295020 (C) MOSCOW 19084

(D) STATE 296926

1. EMBOFF MET AGAIN DECEMBER 7 WITH TABACHENKO AND PAZHITNOV AT MHE RECEPTION DEPT TO DISCUSS LECTURER PLACEMENTS. MEETING WAS PARTICULARLY FRIENDLY AND OPEN, DUE PERHAPS IN PART TO FACT THAT TABACHENKO AND PAZHITNOV, ALONG WITH MOST OTHER MEMBERS OF MHE EXCHANGES STAFF, ATTENDED AND THOROUGHLY ENJOYED SPASO HOUSE SHOWING OF "SILENT MOVIE" DECEMBER 6.

2. AS PER REF C, EMBOFF POINTED OUT TO MHE REPS THAT LECTURER PLACEMENTS ARE TO BE FOR MINIMUM OF THREE MONTHS, EXCEPT IN CASES OF "DISTINGUISHED" LECTURERS. MHE REPS RESPONDED THAT CHECKS WITH LGU, KGU REGARDING HALE AND DATKO RESPECTIVELY INDICATED THAT HALE COULD BE PLACED FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO MONTHS AND DATKO FOR ONLY ONE. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING BY EMBOFF, TABACHENKO SAID MINISTRY CANNOT "FORCE" UNIVERSITIES TO TAKE LECTURERS. IF THEY SAY THEY CAN ACCOMMODATE A LECTURER FOR ONLY TWO MONTHS WE CANNOT TELL THE UNIVERSITY TO TAKE HIM FOR THREE. WE CANNOT HAVE THE LECTURERS STROLLING ABOUT HERE

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FOR A MONTH WITH NOTHING TO DO." ENBOFF INDICATED THAT

PLACEMENTS FOR LESS THAN THREE MONTHS MIGHT MEAN THAT THESE LECTURERS WOULD NOT COME AT ALL. TABACHENKO REPLIED THAT THAT IS UP TO U.S. SIDE AND THAT MHE HAS DONE ALL IT CAN.

3. TABACHENKO THEN DIGRESSED FOR A MOMENT TO SAY THAT THERE ARE "DIFFICULTIES" AT THE PRESENT TIME IN SOME SOVIET UNIVERSITIES, PARTICULARLY FINANCIAL AND HOUSING PROBLEMS. IN LENINGRAD, FOR EXAMPLE, TABACHENKO SAID, THE UNIVERSITY SIMPLY CANNOT ACCOMMODATE MANY VISITORS DUE TO INSUFFICIENT HOTEL SPACE AND INADEQUATE UNIVERSITY HOUSING. HE SAID LGU HAD ALREADY TOLD MHE THAT IT COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY ADDITIONAL FOREIGN SPECIALISTS, "REGARDLESS OF WHAT COUNTRY THEY COME FROM," DURING THE MONTH OF MAY, 1977.

4. RETURNING TO PLACEMENT MATTERS, TABACHENKO INDICATED THAT LGU HAD ALSO DECIDED NOT TO ACCEPT SCOTT. NO DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED YET AT MGU RE WALKER. EMBOFF INFORMED TABACHENKO ABOUT WALKER-VIVACHEV MEETING AND SUBSEQUENT CALL TO MGU. TABACHENKO THEN SAID HE FELT QUITE CERTAIN DECISION WOULD BE REACHED SHORTLY. EMB WILL CHECK WITH HIM AGAIN DECEMBER 10 RE WALKER.

5. NOMINEE PETER MAGGS ALSO ATTENDED DECEMBER 6 SHOWING OF "SILENT MOVIE" AT SPASO AND WAS ABLE TO SHOW OFF HIS COMMAND OF RUSSIAN IN CONVERSATIONS WITH MHE'S DEPUTY CHIEF OF FOREIGN RELATIONS SLAVIN AND TABACHENKO. TABACHENKO INDICATED DECEMBER 7 THAT MHE'S ALL-UNION RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON PROBLEMS OF THE HIGHER SCHOOL (WHERE MAGGS IS CURRENTLY DEMONSTRATING COMPUTER EQUIPMENT) WOULD BE HAPPY TO HAVE HIM FOR TWO WEEKS OF LECTURES IN MAY. KIEV STATE UNIVERSITY ALSO AGREED TO TAKE HIM FOR ONE REPEAT ONE WEEK. NO ANSWER YET FROM MGU.

6. EMB PROPOSES TO INFORM MHE THAT DATKO AND HALE PLACEMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. IF THEIR TOPICS WERE IN SOCIAL SCIENCES OR HUMANITIES WE MIGHT BE INCLINED TO OVERLOOK STIPULATION IN AGREEMENT THAT PLACEMENTS BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR MINIMUM OF THREE MONTHS BUT WE ARE NOT ANXIOUS TO MAKE EXCEPTIONS FOR LECTURERS IN CYBERNETICS AND ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS. IN LIGHT OF MAGGS' GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF RUSSIAN AND THE EXCELLENT CONTACTS HE HAS ALREADY MADE AT ALL-UNION RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND ELSEWHERE HERE, WE ARE OF OPINION THAT HE SHOULD BE TREATED AS "DISTINGUISHED LECTURER" AND PLACED FOR TOTAL OF ONE MONTH AT RESEARCH INSTITUTE, KGU AND MGU, IF LONGER

PLACEMENT AT MGU PROVES NOT TO BE POSSIBLE, ADVISE.

7. TOWARD END OF DISCUSSION EMBOFF RETURNED TO "DIFFICULTIES" TABACHENKO HAD MENTIONED. TABACHENKO SAID PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY WITH HOUSING, EXIST IN MOSCOW AND TO SOME EXTENT IN KIEV. EMBOFF SAID U.S. SIDE WOULD BE HAPPY TO RECRUIT LECTURERS FOR PLACEMENTS IN OTHER CITIES AND CITED YEREVAN AND TASHKENT AS EXAMPLES, SAYING HE HOPED THAT NEXT LIST OF REQUESTS FROM SOVIETS WOULD REFLECT NEEDS AND DESIRES OF MORE UNIVERSITIES. EMBOFF ADDED THAT HE STILL ENCOUNTERED UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS WHO WERE NOT AWARE OF EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES. TABACHENKO SAID PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN OTHER CITIES WERE EXCELLENT AND HE CITED AS EXAMPLE FACT THAT TBILISI STATE UNIVERSITY "IMMEDIATELY" AGREED TO RECEIVE LAROSA AND NOGGLE. HE SAID HE WOULD "ENCOURAGE" MORE SOVIET UNIVERSITIES TO SUBMIT REQUESTS, ALTHOUGH U.S. SIDE MUST UNDERSTAND THAT "CONDITIONS" AT SOME SOVIET UNIVERSITIES MAKE ACCEPTANCE OF FOREIGN SPECIALISTS "IMPOSSIBLE." TABACHENKO ALSO SAID IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF U.S. LECTURERS WOULD REQUEST PLACEMENT AT A WIDER VARIETY OF SOVIET UNIVERSITIES. WE TAKE THIS, PLUS SUCCESSFUL PLACEMENT OF LAROSA, AS AN INFORMAL BUT SUFFICIENT ENDORSEMENT OF U.S. SIDE'S PRACTICE OF NOMINATING "AT LARGE" AND WILL RECOMMEND FURTHER USE OF THIS APPROACH FOR 1977-78 ACADEMIC YEAR IN LATER MESSAGE.

8. COMMENT. WE WERE STRUCK BY TABACHENKO'S CANDOR THROUGHOUT THE MEETING. DISCUSSIONS WITH MHE ON THIS EXCHANGE HAVE COME A LONG WAY SINCE THE STIFF, COLD ENCOUNTERS AT THE TIME OF MUAN'S VISIT ONE YEAR AGO. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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END COMMENT.  
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## Message Attributes

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